

HOUSE RESOLUTION 326

By Favors

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Dr. James L. Catanzaro.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly pause in its deliberations to recognize those talented and determined individuals who have dedicated their lives to the pursuit of excellence in education and all their endeavors and, in doing so, have served as an inspiration to those around them; and

WHEREAS, Dr. James Catanzaro is one such noteworthy individual who is most assuredly deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Catanzaro is a prominent member of the Chattanooga community and has been the esteemed President of Chattanooga State Technical Community College since 1990; and

WHEREAS, under his instrumental leadership, this great college has witnessed advancements of monumental proportions, and is now nationally recognized for cutting edge online course development, exceptional corporate training, early college programs, entrepreneurship, marketing effectiveness, community partnerships, and academic excellence; and

WHEREAS, President Catanzaro brought a wealth of academic administration expertise to Chattanooga, having rendered astute service as a college president for thirty years in Ohio, Illinois, and California before coming to Tennessee, in addition to serving with acumen and alacrity as a dean in the California State University System and as the human resource director of a 7,000 employee manufacturing firm; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Catanzaro demonstrated his commitment to his own education by attaining a Ph.D. in philosophy of religion from Claremont Graduate University and a certificate

in effective management from The Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, he also completed postdoctoral studies at the University of Texas at Austin and has taught an online course, *Religions of the World as Practiced in America*, which was selected by the Monterey Institute/Hewlett Foundation Study for inclusion in the Institute's National Repository of America's best web-based courses; and

WHEREAS, a prolific author, Dr. Catanzaro has penned a book on achieving spiritual well-being, *Ascend: Releasing the Power of the Human Spirit*, as well as a number of articles; he has edited the Chattanooga city magazine, *Chattanooga On the Move*, for four years; and

WHEREAS, since the 1980's, President Catanzaro has shared his and others' thoughts and views by hosting a weekly television interview program that has aired primarily on Public Broadcasting System affiliates, and he is a frequent speaker at conferences; and

WHEREAS, beyond these and innumerable other meritorious accomplishments, Dr. Catanzaro devotes his time to serving on the boards of directors of many community, civic, and arts associations, including the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce, the Allied Arts of Chattanooga, and the Chattanooga Ventura, in addition to serving on the lottery and proprietary schools oversight committees of the General Assembly and as a consultant with the Higher Education Research and Development Institute; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Catanzaro's many contributions have been duly noted by his peers; he is the deserving recipient of such prestigious awards and honors as the Chattanooga Manufacturers' C.C. Mitchell Award, the Distinguished Graduate Award of the University of Texas, Claremont Graduate University Hall of Fame induction, and the Toastmasters Award for Communication and Leadership, and he has enjoyed the unique opportunity of serving as an Olympic torchbearer; and

WHEREAS, his many awards and accomplishments aside, President Catanzaro is most appreciative of the love and support he receives from his wife, Rhonda, his children, and his grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to grasp this opportunity to extend its gratitude and salutations to Dr. James Catanzaro for his distinguished service to Chattanooga State Technical Community College and the faculty and students under his charge as well as the greater Chattanooga community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and recognize Dr. James Catanzaro, commend him for his exemplary service as President and as an academic innovator at Chattanooga State Technical Community College, and offer our fondest wishes for his every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.